

Community-Based Job Training Grants

Salt Lake Community College



Grantee: Salt Lake Community College (SLCC)

Industry Focus: Biomanufacturing

Key Partners: InnovaBio, ZARS, Idaho Technology, Cephalon, United Natural Product Alliance, Nelson Labs, and Jeanine Wilson of ZEVEX; the Workforce, Education, and Economic Development Alliance (WEEDA) that includes the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) and the Governor's Office of Economic Development; Granite School District (GSD) and its Granite Technical Institute; Utah Valley State College; and the City College of San Francisco

Grant Amount: \$1,997,759

Leveraged Amount: \$2,070,862

Location of Grant Activities: Utah

Challenge: Currently, there are no training programs that provide a pipeline of young workers to meet the existing or future workforce needs in Utah's biotechnology industry. Additionally, for biomanufacturing companies to be successful they must have employees who have an understanding of international regulatory issues and marketing in the global marketplace. These programs currently do not exist and need to be developed to meet industry demand. Though an aging population is nationally recognized as contributing to a workforce bottleneck, Utah has the opposite situation. Utah has the lowest median age in the nation, 27.1, compared to 35.3 nationally. Further, 19.4 percent of the population is still in school, which means that the state's biggest pipeline of talent is largely yet-to-be-trained. This translates into a predicted influx of between 10,000-15,000 students entering the education system in the next 12 years.

Addressing the Challenge: The Biomanufacturing Education Training Partnership (BETP) will focus on meeting the growing demands of biomanufacturing for the life science industry in Utah. The BETP has created a synergistic and cooperative plan to create training programs at the SLCC and GSD Granite Technical Institute that meet the educational needs of entering students, as well as incumbent, displaced, and underemployed workers. The content of these industry training programs is industry-defined, thus ensuring alignment with industry needs.

Projected Outcomes:

- Train 375 students
- Create a new training program in biomanufacturing that is offered by the SLCC and GSD Biotechnology Programs and is driven by industry demand
- Design and implement new curriculum materials and courses that are defined in content by industry partners, including distance education courses that help reach rural and isolated areas of the region and increase our impact
- Develop flexible retraining programs that reach incumbent, displaced and underemployed workers
- Create well-equipped facilities that provide an optimal learning and training environment for students.

